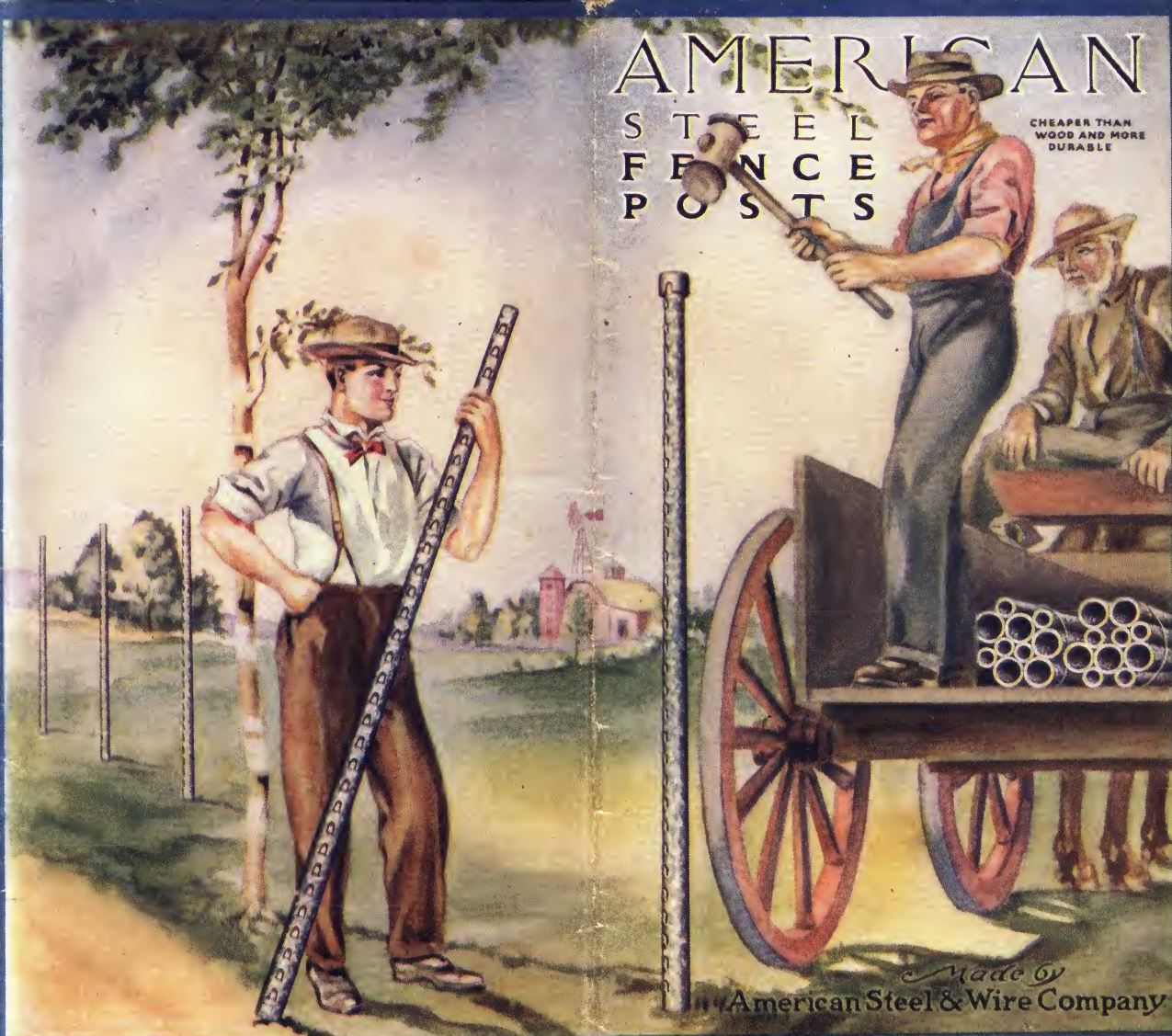


# AMERICAN

STEEL  
FENCE  
POSTS

CHEAPER THAN  
WOOD AND MORE  
DURABLE



Made by  
American Steel & Wire Company

## American Steel Fence Post

**T**HE American Steel Fence Post is thoroughly established as a money-saving and satisfactory farm fixture. We began the manufacture of the American Post in August, 1910, but due to crude machinery and the always present starting troubles it took us nearly a year to get really going in the post line. Since that time, however, we have been doing a post business of remarkable volume and have sold thousands of tons of posts all over the United States.

In every section the American Post is pronounced a decided success. It is satisfactory to the user and furnishes much better service than ever has been secured or can be secured by the use of wood or other material. The American Post is much cheaper than wood or other material when service and durability are considered.

We have recently completed new machinery for the manufacture of steel posts which gives us an increased capacity of over 400 per cent. We carry American Steel Posts in stock wherever we carry woven wire fence.

When we bought the American Steel Post we based our action on the recommendations of say five hundred farmers who had used the American Posts on their farms all the way from five to fourteen years. Today we could give satisfactory testimonials from 30,000 to 40,000 farmers who are using American Posts. The American Post has proven itself from the start to be the most all-around satisfactory article we have put on the market. Please look over the following pages and know for yourself what the American Post is and what it will do.

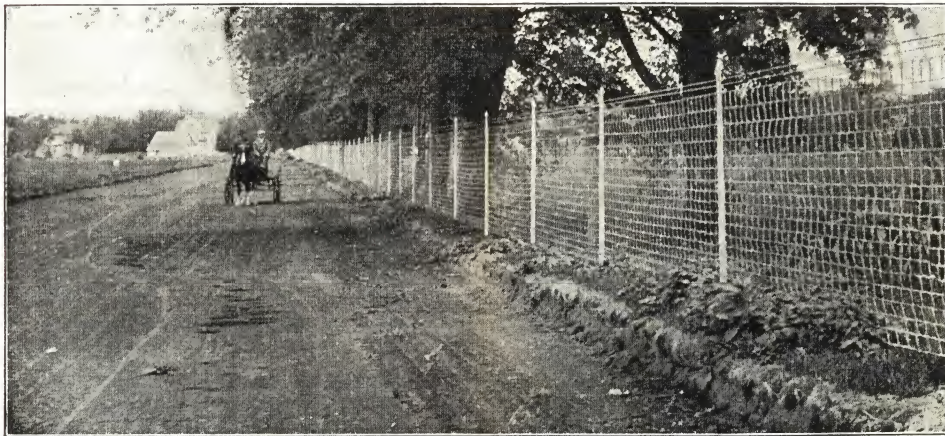
## American Steel & Wire Company

Chicago      New York      Cleveland      Pittsburgh      Denver

Export Representative: U. S. Steel Products Co., New York  
Pacific Coast Representative: U. S. Steel Products Co., San Francisco    Los Angeles    Portland    Seattle

## Fence Building With American Steel Posts

American Steel Posts and Woven Wire Fence combine to make the modern and effective farm protection.



The utility and uniformity of the American Steel Fence Post with Woven Wire Fence is apparent to the road traveler.

### A Model Fence Post

**T**HE actual requirements of a fence post are not as thoroughly understood perhaps as one would naturally suppose, considering the fact that fence posts have been a necessity in practically every country for ages.

In the past the fact that the material used for fence posts (wood more than anything else) always has been subject to more or less rapid decay and consequent loss of strength and efficiency, subject to fire, lightning, moisture, extreme

drought, etc., has led the fence builder to depend on bulk more than anything else. The great bulk of material necessary to insure anything like a long term of service is responsible for the big wood post which all would use if the cost had not become almost prohibitive and nothing better available.

The fence builder knows that no matter how big the wood post is when set, a certain percentage of the post will decay each year and soon the post is reduced to one-half or less of its original strength,

even though at all points except at the ground line the original bulk is maintained so far as appearance goes. The average life of the wood post used today is estimated at from five to seven years; many of the wood posts on the market cannot be depended upon even for this length of time.

Then there is the fire risk which is best illustrated along railroads where the loss per annum varies from 2 to 40 per cent. Hence it is apparent that the great bulk sought in wood fence posts is due to the fact that this bulk is necessary in order to secure a reasonable term of service and is not necessary from any other standpoint. If we stop to think, the real requirements of a model fence post are as follows: Sufficient strength for the purpose it is to serve; great durability; sufficient flexibility to receive shock from contact by springing or even bending, but never breaking; able to withstand exposure to atmospheric conditions, fire, lightning, etc.; a sufficiently good conductor of electricity so that stock will not be killed by lightning along the fence line; indifferent to heat and cold; not lifted by frost; occupying just as little space as possible; equal resistance in all directions; capable of being driven in ordinary soil; requiring no staples or ties; capable of receiving any design of wire fence; simple in structure, nothing to get out of order; readily moved; readily detached from fence; can be anchored in the ground in hollows; easy to set, requiring no special tools; uniform in size, length and appearance; light in weight to reduce expense of transportation.

The American Post embodies every one of the good qualities above enumerated and many more. Best of all, the American Post has ten to sixteen years to its credit in actual service in the field; not in any special locality or soil, but scattered throughout the entire country, in all kinds of soil and subject to all sorts of conditions.

## Durability of the American Steel Post

WE knew all about the American Post at the start. It was made of galvanized steel sheets in the form of a tapering tube just as now, but without tongues. At that time a special base was used, in fact, several forms of base were used. These bases proved failures.

We had little or no faith in the durability of the metal and really expected a few years would demonstrate the total incapacity of the American Post to stand for anything like a sufficient length of time to warrant its purchase and use. However, the years passed and we made a special investigation, traveling all over the country examining American Posts set in the early days, ten to fourteen years previous, and while we examined thousands of these old posts, we did not find a single rusty post or a post that showed the least deterioration due to exposure or use. The posts examined were set in nine different states in all sorts of soil and under all conditions. They were found to be perfectly clean and, so far as could be determined, as good as when first set and good for an indefinite future.

The indications are that these posts will last for twenty, thirty or fifty years—no one can tell. Ten to seventeen years has not affected them in the least and we cannot imagine what will or can affect them later. They seem practically indestructible.

After thorough investigation and overwhelming evidence in favor of the American Post, we began negotiations with the owners and completed arrangements whereby we acquired the American Post in its entirety together with machinery and mills for its manufacture.

### The Line Post

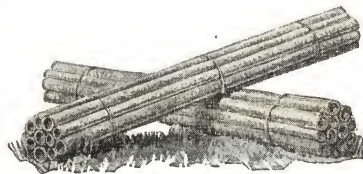
THE American Line Post is in form a tapering tube, the larger end set in the ground. The object of this form is to secure the greatest possible strength to a given number of pounds of steel, the greatest strength being required at the base of the post and decreasing towards the top.

Line Posts are made in lengths of 5, 6½, 7, 7½, 8, 9, 10 and 11 feet. They are made in two weights, No. 16 and No. 13 gage metal. Line Posts are shipped in bundles of ten posts each, as shown in cut.

For general farm use where fence is to be not more than 48 to 52 inches in height, the 6½-foot No. 16 Line Post has proven ample for good and satisfactory service. If higher fences are to be used, the length of the Line Posts should be proportionately increased. The No. 13 Line Post is heavier and of course stiffer than the No. 16, and for small enclosures such as horse or cattle yards, town lots, parks, etc., is preferable.

Line Posts can be driven under ordinary conditions by using the American Driving Cap or a stick of wood on top of the post. But if the ground is hard, stony or full of roots, it is always advisable to use the American Auger and make a hole for the Line Post. The American Auger makes a 2-inch hole, is easy and quick. The posts can be set in holes by the use of this auger just about as quickly and easily as by driving.

All line posts are heavily coated with zinc inside and outside.



Bundles of Line Posts Ready for Shipment

### Driving the Line Post

UNDER ordinary conditions and in ordinary agricultural soil the American Line Post can be successfully driven. Nearly all soils at certain times of the year become very hard, so hard that it is almost impossible to dig a hole. No one would expect to drive any kind of a post under such conditions.



No. K 27  
Driving Cap

In other places gravel or stone interferes, which of course makes driving impossible. Under ordinary conditions make a hole 10 or 12 inches deep with a crowbar, put the line post in this hole and drive to place with a wooden or wood-faced maul, using the American Driving Cap or a piece of wood on top of the post. Don't strike too hard—lighter blows and more of them are best for the post.



Driving the American Line Post

Due to the fact that the post tapers from the bottom up you will note after driving that the ground at the surface will be away from the post. Tamp the earth around the post at the surface and the post is set. You will find the post more firmly held in the ground 60 days after it is set than at the time of setting.

Always get the tongues on the posts at the surface of the ground in proper position to receive the wire when putting the line posts in. If the tongues toward the top of a line post are a little to one side, the top of the post can be twisted in position by hand, but the bottom of the post will remain where set.

### American Post Auger

THE American Post Auger as here shown has been designed for the sole purpose of assisting in setting American Line Posts. Where conditions will not admit driving of the line post, use the American Auger. It makes a hole just a little smaller than the large end of the line post, so that when the post is driven in the hole it fits tightly and is just as good or a better job than can be secured by driving.

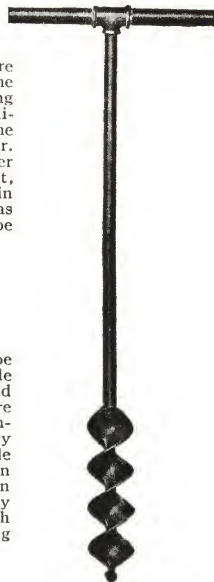
### Setting Line Posts in Holes

WHERE line posts cannot be driven, make a 2-inch hole with the American Ground Auger. The American Auger will bore a hole through hard ground with comparatively little work and in a very short time; in fact it takes very little longer to set American Line Posts in holes with the American Auger than it does to drive them under ordinary conditions. The post fills a 2-inch hole nicely and very little tamping is necessary.

### Concrete Not Necessary in Setting Line Posts

IT has been conclusively proven that concrete is of no benefit in setting line posts. The post itself is elastic and in a fence we need not only the elasticity and flexibility of the woven wire fabric and the post itself, but also that of the spongy pad-like cushion of the earth about the post. Don't waste money and reduce service by placing concrete about line posts.

In many of the old wood post fences standing today nearly every post could be snapped off at the ground line with a very little pressure on top, due to the fact that they are badly decayed and do not possess any flexibility whatever. There is no elasticity in a wood post and the little strength they have left after a few years' service is practically of no account in resisting shock and pressure.



### The Tongues or Staples

THE tongues on the American Line Posts take the place of the ordinary staple. There is more metal in the tongue on the American Post than in a No. 9 Fence Staple.

Ordinarily the wires of the fence are placed inside the tongue and the point of the tongue turned inward toward the center of the post. It is sometimes desirable to turn the tongues downward over the bar of the fence and this can be successfully done if care is used in bending the tongue. If the tongue is bent abruptly downward or pounded down with a hammer, a tongue may be broken, but this is invariably the result of bad practice. If a tongue for any reason should break off, there are plenty left to securely fasten the fence, or a short piece of wire placed around the post will answer every purpose.

The posts are made of the best steel sheets and by taking a small piece of steel sheet and bending it back and forth you will get a good idea as to what may be expected of the tongues on the American Post.

The tongues are designed for bending up or down and it is sometimes a good thing to bend at least a part of them downward on each post.

### End and Corner Posts

AMERICAN End and Corner Posts are made 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 feet long, and in two weights or gage of metal, Nos. 12 and 10.

Ends and corners should be set in concrete, not less than 3 feet in the ground.

The strength of end and corner posts is ample to thoroughly stretch and hold the heaviest fencing made.

All end and corner posts are heavily coated with zinc outside and inside. All fixtures exposed to the elements are also zinc coated.

American Corner Posts fit all angles.

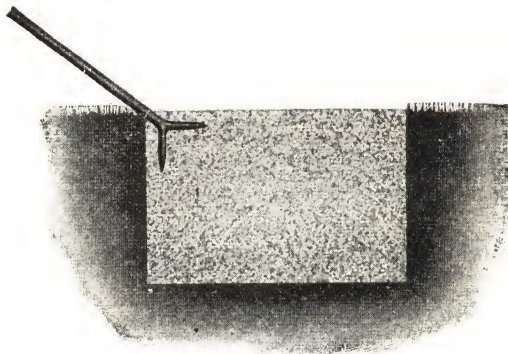


American End and Corner Posts Ready for Shipment

### The Brace Block

ONE of the most important items in setting the American End and Corner Posts is the brace block; that is, the block of concrete at the lower or ground end of the brace. This block takes practically all the strain of stretching the fence and holding it in position. If the brace block moves, the top of the end post must follow. Hence it is apparent that the brace block must have sufficient bearing against the earth to prevent its moving under the enormous pressure due to stretching a heavy wire fence.

The wall of earth against which the face of the brace block presses should be perpendicular and the brace block should be deep enough in the ground to get a good bearing against solid



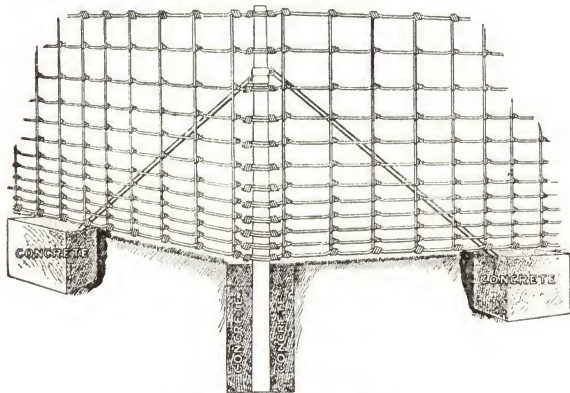
Proper Position of Brace in Brace Block

hard earth. As a general thing the first few inches of earth near the surface afford little resistance or help in holding the brace block. The brace block should have a greater dimension in the direction of the line of fence than at right angles to the line of fence.

The brace foot should be as near the inside edge of the brace block as possible and secure firm connection in the concrete. If the concrete covers the brace foot an inch, it will do, but of course a slight variation in this respect will make no particular difference.

### The End Post

American End Post includes the post proper, brace collar, upper brace connection, the brace and brace foot. When you buy the end post, the price covers everything complete. In shipping all the fixtures are wired to the post, one post to bundle.



### The Corner Post

American Corner Post includes the post proper, brace collars, two upper brace connections, two braces and two brace feet. This makes the complete post ready to set. One post to bundle.

## Brace Collars

(See page 19)

**I**N preparing End and Corner Posts for shipment we place the brace collars as follows:

On 7-foot End and Corner Posts, the brace collar 12 inches from top of post.

On 8-foot End and Corner Posts, the brace collar 14 inches from top of post.

On 9-foot End and Corner Posts, the brace collar 16 inches from top of post.

It is intended that the End and Corner Posts be set in the ground not less than 3 feet and the placing of brace collars as above indicated will work out right. The top of the End and Corner Posts should extend above the top line of the fence about 2 inches, and if after placing the post 3 feet in the ground the top of the post is more than 2 inches above where the top of the fence is to be, let the post down further into the ground so that it will not extend more than 2 inches above the top of the fence when completed.

We intend to adjust the brace collars at the mill as above indicated, but if the collars are not low enough on the end and corner posts when received, loosen the bolts and let the collars down. Be sure that the brace collar bolts are tightened well before attempting to stretch the fence, as if the collars are loose they will slip upward on the post under strain.

## Braces for End and Corner Posts

**E**ND posts require one brace each; corner posts, two braces each. Braces are made of 1¼-inch tubing, very heavy and heavily coated with zinc. 7-foot end and corner posts require 6-foot braces, 8-foot posts, 7-foot braces and 9-foot posts, 8-foot braces. See page 20 for list prices of braces.

## Setting End and Corner Posts in Concrete

**T**OO much care cannot be used in setting End and Corner Posts. The ends and corners are the foundations of the fence, and if they are not right, no part of the completed fence will be right. The only portions of a wire fence that should be rigid, unmovable and everlastingly fixed

are the ends of the stretching lines; that means all ends and corners.

In woven wire fabric and in the line posts flexibility is a necessity and an important aid to service and durability, but the ends must be built in so that they will permanently hold the fence line taut and in position. This is true of any end post, no matter what style of post is used. The American End and Corner Posts set as we suggest will hold a heavy wire fence much better and for a much longer time than any wood post, and there are many good reasons why this is the case.

Concrete (artificial stone) is ordinarily made from a mixture of Portland cement, sand and gravel. The material entering into the concrete aside from the cement is commonly called the "aggregate." This aggregate may consist of sand and gravel, slag, broken stone, cinders or brickbats.

The strength of concrete very largely depends upon the character of the aggregate; or to put it differently, the strength of the concrete cannot be greater than the character of the aggregate will permit. Hence, while good Portland cement is always important, it is also important to select good aggregate for best results.

Good Portland cement, clean sand and clean gravel probably make the best concrete obtainable so far as ultimate strength is concerned. For the setting of fence posts it is not necessary to make so rich a mixture nor so strong a concrete as is required for many other purposes, although if the material is available it is well to use the very best and get the best kind of a job. If cinders are used they should be screened to remove the dirt and ash. Sand and gravel should be practically free from clay and loam. Brickbats and stone should be well broken up if used.

In using comparatively weak aggregate such as cinders, brickbats, etc., the proportion of cement should be somewhat increased. Coarse sand is better than fine sand and if the sand is very fine the proportion of cement should be slightly increased.

For general use an ordinary mixture, such as is used in heavy walls, retaining walls, piers and abutments, is all right, i.e., a 1-3-6 mixture. This means one part Portland cement, three parts clean sand, six parts clean gravel; or to put it another way: 4 bags of Portland cement (1 barrel); 3 barrels of sand; 6 barrels of gravel.

One bag of Portland cement contains a little less than one cubic foot, and one barrel contains four bags. The material for concrete can be measured by shovels full or with a pail, or bushel basket or anything of this sort, or it can be measured in the cement bags. If bag measure is used, the 1-3-6 mixture would be: 1 bag cement, 3 bags sand, 6 bags gravel.

A post hole 18 inches wide, 20 inches long, 3 feet deep, requires  $7\frac{1}{2}$  cubic feet of concrete. A brace-block hole 18 inches wide, 20 inches long and 18 inches deep requires  $3\frac{3}{4}$  cubic feet of concrete. On this basis it would require  $11\frac{1}{4}$  cubic feet of concrete to set one End Post.

To set a corner post requires an extra brace-block hole, and by making the post hole  $20'' \times 20'' \times 36''$ — $15\frac{1}{8}$  or practically 16 cubic feet of concrete would be required to set one corner post. Theoretically to set 2 corner posts as above would require 32 cubic feet of concrete or  $1\frac{1}{8}$  cubic yards of concrete. To set one End Post would require about  $\frac{3}{4}$  or less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  cubic yard of concrete per post.

The dimensions of holes above given are ample for ordinary conditions and in many instances smaller holes and less concrete will suffice.

However, it should be borne in mind that the materials entering into concrete will not make as many cubic feet of concrete as indicated by the measurements of the material before mixing. That is, 1 cubic foot of cement, 3 cubic feet of sand and 6 cubic feet of gravel, equaling 10 cubic feet before mixing, will not produce 10 cubic feet of concrete. A certain proportion of the cement goes to fill the voids in the sand and a certain proportion of the sand and cement go to fill the voids in the gravel.

This is illustrated in the case of a bushel of potatoes. Although the basket may be full of potatoes, you can readily put into the basket a quantity of peas or shelled corn and after you have put in all the corn the basket will hold, you can still add wheat or grass seed without overflowing the basket. Therefore, in estimating the quantity of concrete necessary to fill a certain sized hole allowance must be made for this seeming shrinkage in material after mixing.

Usually in digging the holes for end and corner posts the hole gets bigger than intended. This of course, is not detrimental, but will take a little more concrete than indicated by exact measurements. Care should be taken not to have the diameter of the hole at the bottom less than the diameter at the top.

### Mixing Concrete

**M**IXING can best be done on a flat platform, the platform made as nearly water tight as possible by placing the boards close together. First measure the sand and spread it in a layer of equal depth. Place the cement on top of the sand and thoroughly mix the sand and cement by turning over with a shovel or mixing hoe, mixing until the color is uniform. Spread this mixture on the board and on top spread the gravel, then continue the mixing.

When you have a pretty uniform mixture, add water and continue the mixing until the desired consistency is secured.

Add the water rather slowly, as this will save losing cement. Don't slight the mixing, as on the mixing largely depends the after results.

If the concrete shows streaky or dry spots, it is not sufficiently well mixed and must be turned again. After the final turning, round up the pile and it is ready for placing.

If a natural mixture of both sand and gravel is used, it should be spread on the mixing board and thoroughly wet, then spread the cement on top and mix, adding such water as is necessary.

The concrete mixture should contain enough water so that it will handle nicely on the shovel without running off much. Slight tamping to remove bubbles, fill the voids and give a perfect fit is all that is necessary. A moderately dry mixture will set more quickly than a very wet mixture, but a wet mixture as above indicated is preferable for post setting.

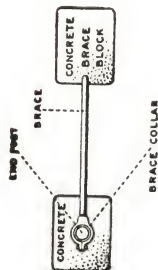
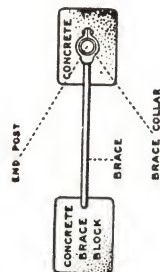
Concrete should not be exposed to the direct rays of the sun until it has had time to set hard. As soon as the concrete at the top of the post hole is firm, it is a good plan to cover with earth, green grass or something that will in a measure retain moisture. If the concrete can be wet every day for a week it will be better for it. Don't let the concrete freeze. If the weather is frosty, the earth taken from the hole should be shoveled back on top of the concrete and left there until the concrete has set and all danger from freezing is past.

Use concrete as soon as possible after it is made as if allowed to partially set before being placed, its strength is reduced and if left too long before using, it becomes worthless. To smooth the surface of the concrete at the top of the post hole drive the stones or pebbles down with trowel or back of shovel until the water comes to the surface.

Many farmers prefer to mix concrete in a wagon box and claim this is a very convenient and satisfactory method.

### Size of Holes for Ends, Corners and Brace Blocks

**I**T is impossible to make any hard and fast rules as to sizes of holes to dig for American End or Corner Posts, as the nature of the soil, the length of the stretch and the character of the concrete to be used all have a bearing on this proposition. However, in ordinary agricultural soil for an end post, a hole 16 inches wide, 18 inches long, 3 feet deep has been found ample. The long way of the hole should be in the direction of the line of fence. For a corner post, we suggest a hole 20 inches square, 3 feet deep. The larger the hole the heavier will be the body of concrete about the post, the better the post will be anchored and the greater bearing the post will have against the earth.



Ground Plan of Fence Line

Set the posts in the center of the hole and fill the hole full of concrete, being careful to have the concrete fit the hole snugly on all sides. It is not necessary to do much tamping, just enough to make a snug fit.

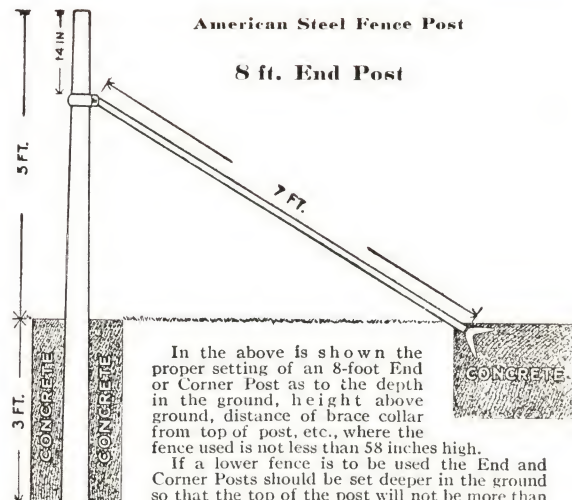
For the brace block the hole should be large enough so that the block will have a bearing on the earth sufficient to stand the strain of stretching and a little more, then it will be a permanent job. In ordinary agricultural soil a block hole 18 inches wide, 20 inches long and 20 inches deep will hold a very heavy fence.

After the block hole has been filled with concrete, connect the brace with the collar of the post, put the cast iron brace foot on the other end of the brace, letting it fall on top of the concrete just as you want it; then gently press the foot of the brace down into the concrete until the cast iron brace foot is about 1 inch below the surface of the surrounding ground. The top of the concrete block should not be higher than the surface of the ground. The brace foot should enter the concrete just at the edge of the block nearest the post; practically all concrete between the end post and the foot of the brace and above the surface of the earth is wasted and of no value in withstanding pressure.

When possible, it is well to use a line stretched between end posts in setting the brace in the concrete brace block; then you may be sure of getting the brace in line. This is important. It can be done by sighting, but a line pulled taut between end posts is absolute.

After the end and corner posts and braces are set, do not touch them until the concrete is hard, and do not attempt to make a pull or stretch fence on them until they have set at least forty-eight hours. If you can give them a longer time to set, so much the better.

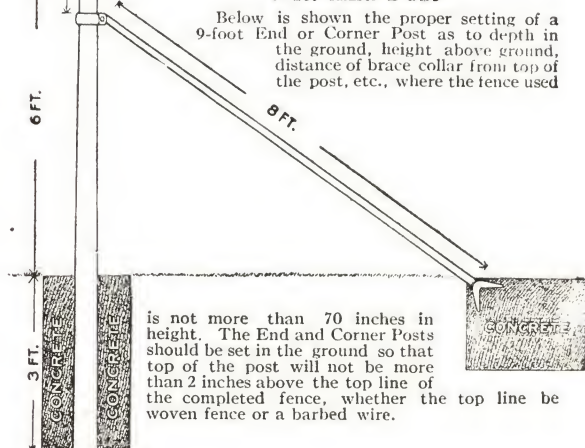
### 8 ft. End Post



In the above is shown the proper setting of an 8-foot End or Corner Post as to the depth in the ground, height above ground, distance of brace collar from top of post, etc., where the fence used is not less than 58 inches high.

If a lower fence is to be used the End and Corner Posts should be set deeper in the ground so that the top of the post will not be more than two inches above the top line of the completed fence, whether the top line be woven fence or a barbed wire.

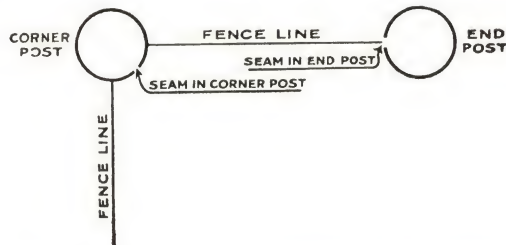
### 9 ft. End Post



is not more than 70 inches in height. The End and Corner Posts should be set in the ground so that top of the post will not be more than 2 inches above the top line of the completed fence, whether the top line be woven fence or a barbed wire.

## Correct Position of the Opening in End and Corner Posts

ONE object of the illustration below on this page is to show the proper position of the seam in American End and Corner Posts to the fence line. Note the opening of the end post is toward the other end of the fence line, while the opening or seam of the corner post should be midway between the lines of the angle made by the corner. The posts if properly set will stand in any position, and we only suggest the above as probably the best plan.

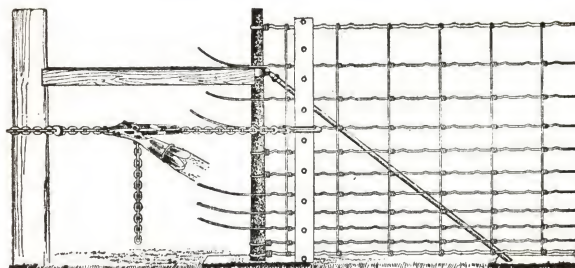


We also show the relative position of the wire fabric to the end and corner posts. Note the fence should pull from the center of end and corner posts.

## Stretching the Fence on American Steel Posts

FIRST, unroll the fence along the fence line in the usual way. Fasten the ends of the bars of the fence to the end post by wrapping them around the post and splicing as shown in the illustration on this page. Use care in getting the fence fastened to the end post evenly so that all wires will pull right. Fasten the bottom bar first, and to do this, raise the fence up a little so you can get at it; after the bottom bar is spliced force it down to the concrete, then fasten the other bars from the bottom up.

Go to the other end of the fence line and see that as much slack as possible is pulled out of the fence as it lies on the ground. Put the stretcher clamp on the fence so that when you have the fence stretched and are ready to fasten the bars to the end post, the stretcher clamp will be within 18 to 36 inches of the end post. The stretcher clamp should be put on the fence so that the nuts on the clamp bolts are towards the post brace.

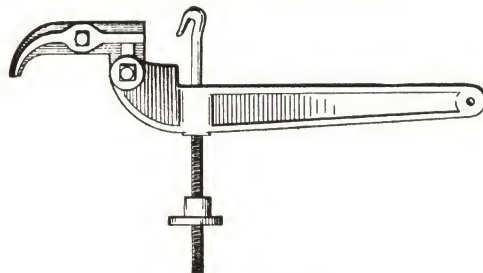


Fastening the Fence After Stretching

If this is not done you will have trouble in taking out the member of the clamp between the fence and the brace, because the clamp bolts are not intended to be taken out of the clamp member, but are fastened into it. The above applies to such clamps as are used with the U. S. and Lott stretchers. If the clamp bolts are readily removed it is just as well to have the heads of the bolts towards the post brace.

Care must be taken not to let the stretcher clamp interfere with the post brace in stretching. Watch it and if any of the bolt heads or nuts are liable to catch on the brace and move or bend it, the clamp can be pushed away from the brace until the clamp has passed the danger point.

When through stretching use the American End Tool, shown below, or some other suitable tool and draw the bars of the fence between the stretcher clamp and the end post as tightly as possible and fasten with splicer or pliers.

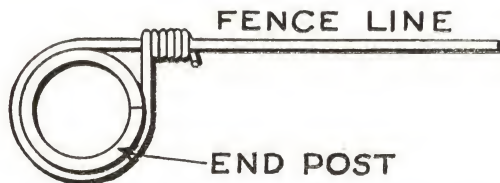


American End Tool  
(See directions for use page 10)

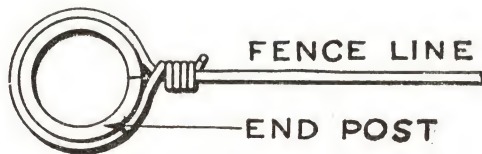
## Fastening Fence to Posts

**D**ON'T fasten the fence to any of the line posts until you are through stretching. The fence can be hung on an occasional post just to hold it in place, the same as a fence is loosely stapled on a wood post when stretching. The fence will not damage the tongues of the line post while the stretching is done, but if not watched closely some of the stays may be moved by the tongues just as they would be moved by a staple in a wood post if not taken care of.

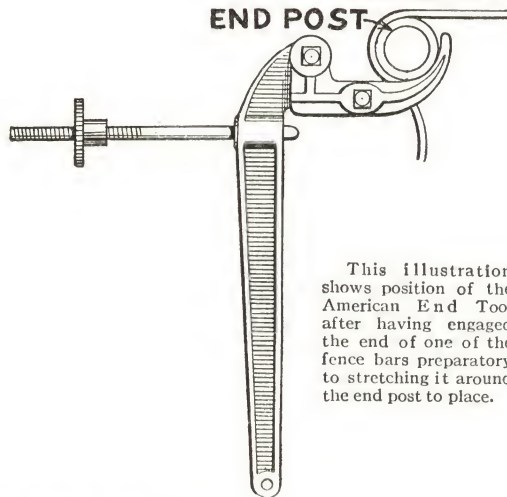
After the fence is stretched and fastened at both ends get the top and bottom bars of the fence where you want them on the line post. If the fence lifts too high in hollows, step on the bottom bar and bring it to place, turning the tongue down over the bottom bar. This will hold the fence down. If necessary several of the tongues may be turned down over the fence bars. If the fence crushes going over hills, raise the top bar up to where you want it and fasten in place.



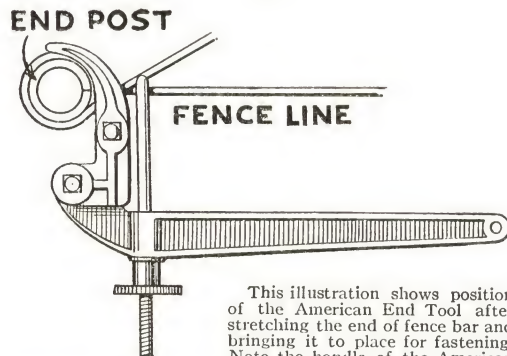
Above is shown the usual tie secured about the End Post. This tie doesn't hold the fence bars taut because the loop will slip around on the post until the line wires pull from the center of the post. This slacks the fence.



Here is shown the correct position of tie when stretching and fastening is completed. Note the bars of the fence pull in line from the center of the post and no further movement or slack is possible. This tie is accomplished by the use of the American End Tool. (Illustrated on page 9.)

FENCE LINE  
END POST

This illustration shows position of the American End Tool after having engaged the end of one of the fence bars preparatory to stretching it around the end post to place.



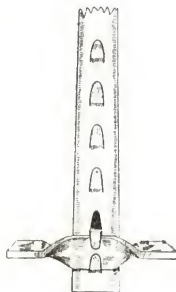
This illustration shows position of the American End Tool after stretching the end of fence bar and bringing it to place for fastening. Note the handle of the American End Tool is parallel to the line of the fence and the hook has been connected to the bar of the fence, and by turning the hand burr the fence bar has been brought in line with center of the post. The end of the fence bar is then bent about the bar and a permanent tie completed.

## Anchoring Line Posts

A LINE POST at the bottom of a hollow or depression should be anchored so that it will not lift when fence is stretched and fastened down to the post. In stretching fence under such conditions on wood posts it is customary to nail a piece of wood across the bottom of the post.



Wood or stone  
wired to post for  
anchor.

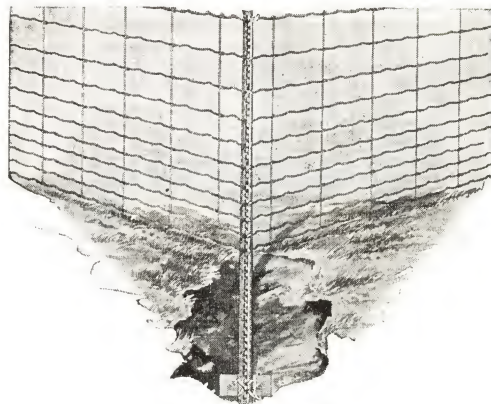


American anchor  
in use.

In using the American Steel Line Post under such conditions wire a piece of wood, a brick or a stone to the bottom of the post. We manufacture a steel anchor as shown herein which will give good resistance, but a piece of wood, brick, or stone will give even better resistance and is much cheaper. By making a post hole 6 or 8 inches in diameter and using 8 or 10 inches of concrete in the bottom of the hole, the line post is very securely anchored. Or one or two pieces of No. 9 wire may be used, attaching a brick or chunk of wood at one end and burying it in the ground, then bringing the wires up and winding about the bottom bar of the fence and each succeeding bar clear to the top. This is an excellent method of holding down a fence and relieves the post of this strain.

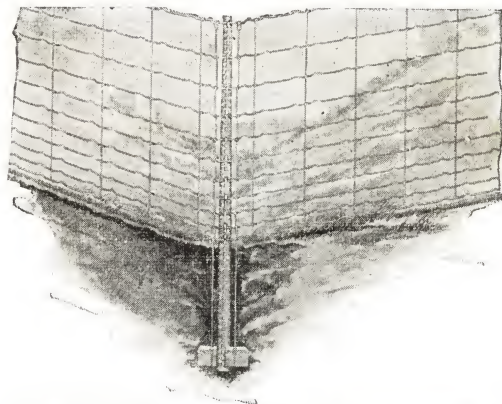
The upward strain is very severe under certain conditions and for best results it may be necessary to fasten one or two pieces of No. 9 wire to the anchor at the bottom of the line post and wrap about each bar of the fence from the bottom up so as to take the strain off the tongues of the post. Or the fence can be anchored down by burying close to the line post a chunk of wood or stone and fastening the wires thereto, tying the fence down as indicated.

## American Steel Fence Post



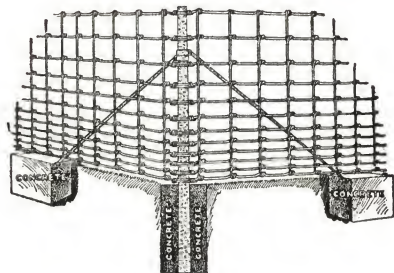
### In the Hollow

Above we illustrate the method of tying the fence down by a heavy wire attached to an anchor at the bottom of the line post.



In this illustration we show method of tying fence down in hollows by heavy wire attached to anchors buried on each side of the line post. This method relieves the line post from actual strain.

Either of these methods will prove satisfactory if properly handled.



### Turning the Corner

**D**O not attempt to stretch fence around a corner. Stretch the fence to the corner and fasten. Then start the fence on the other angle by attaching to the corner post. This will make a first class job and give longer and better service than if both lines of fence were not fastened to the corner post.



Holding Hook

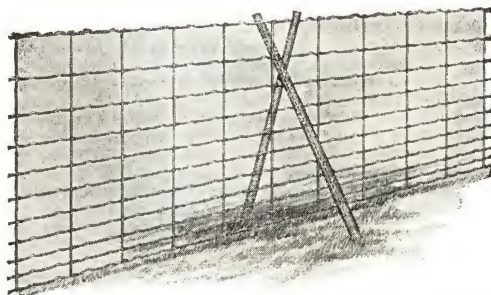
Above is illustrated a form of hook which can be advantageously used in holding fence down while being stretched. These hooks can be made by taking a piece of No. 6 or No. 4 rod (about the size of a lead pencil) forming the letter "S", one hook of the "S" being inserted in the tongue opening of the post, the other hook placed over the bar of the fence. After the fence is stretched and fastened, these hooks can be removed for further use. The straight hook goes in the post, the smaller and irregular hook over the bar of the fence.



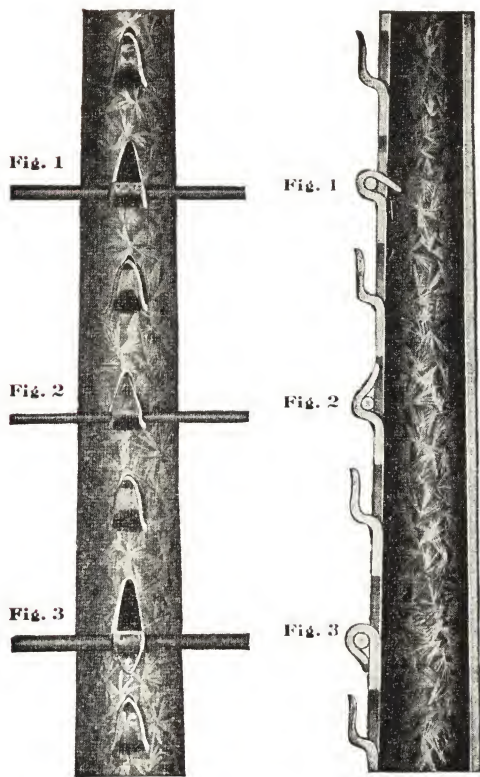
### Over the Hill

**I**N stretching fence over a hill or where the level is sharply changed to a downward direction, the fence is liable to crush at the point of the angle.

A line post should be set at the point of the angle where the crushing tendency is greatest. If the downward strain seems to be too much for one American Line Post, two posts can be set close together, one each side of the fence as shown in the illustration above.



In stretching woven wire fence it is sometimes desirable to hold the fence up against the post but not really fasten it. Using two line posts as indicated above will be found very convenient and satisfactory. By bringing the bases of the two posts closer together the fence can be raised, and by reversing the operation, can be lowered to meet the conditions.



### Stapling Fence

**M**ANY a woven wire fence has been stapled to death. The wood post of today is generally soft and of such texture that after a short exposure to alternating wet weather and drying sunshine the staples are easily forced from the post. This is well understood by the fence builder and, due to this fact, it has become the custom in stapling fences to wood posts to use a long staple and drive it in just as far as

possible and over every bar of the fence. A fence builder knows that at best his staples will loosen in the wood and eventually offer little resistance to pressure. Hence it is often the case that the staples are driven down so hard that the bars of the fence are indented and the fence damaged to quite an extent.

As a matter of fact if the top and bottom bars are securely fastened to the line posts and a few of the intermediate bars are also fastened, that is all that is necessary. Therefore, in using the American Fence Post, secure the top and bottom bars where you want them and fasten as many of the intermediate bars as you can conveniently and you will find this all sufficient.

Remember the tongues of the posts can be turned down just as well as up if this seems desirable. It is quite often desirable and good practice to turn the tongue down over the bottom bar of the fence, as in that way the fence is prevented from lifting. Don't be alarmed if you cannot fasten all of the bars of the fence securely to the American Post; it isn't necessary and you can always fasten enough of them to insure satisfactory service. Ordinarily we do not recommend that the tongues of the posts be hammered down closely, but if it is desired to make an extra strong connection, the tongues can be turned back into the post at right angles as shown in the opposite illustration and a very strong fastening secured.

For a very strong connection the tongue can be forced back into the post as shown at Figure 1, or for ordinary fastening it will be found sufficient to clamp the tongues over the wires as shown Figure 2. If more convenient and especially if it is desired to hold a fence down, the tongues can be turned as shown at Figure 3, this page.

### Don't be Deceived by Appearance

**O**FTEN the first impression a fence user gets upon seeing a sample of the American Post is that it is pretty light, rather spindling, too thin, etc. We have been so long accustomed to look at the bulky wood post that it is not surprising the American Post looks light at first glance.

However, the requirements of a fence post are not bulk nor weight, but strength, flexibility and durability. After handling the American Post, its strength is apparent and its durability is proven by the thousands of posts that have been in constant use for the last ten to seventeen years. The flexibility of the American Post saves the fence, saves the posts and saves stock as well and anything else which may come in contact with the erected fence. These facts are self-evident and we have never yet found an up-to-date thorough-going farmer, railroad man or fence user that did not become intensely interested in the American Post as soon as it was properly presented and its merits explained.

The American Post shows best when set in the fence, as it then demonstrates in a practical way its proper use and how adequate it is from every standpoint to satisfactorily serve the purpose for which it is intended.

### Length of Posts

THE height of the completed fence determines the length of the post necessary. It has been satisfactorily proven that for best results End and Corner Posts should be set in concrete not less than 3 feet, that is, the concrete about the base of the End and Corner Posts should extend into the ground not less than 3 feet. The lower end of the post may extend still further into the ground and below the concrete. Hence to determine the length of End and Corner Posts add to the 3 feet in the concrete, the height of the fence used and 2 inches for lee-way at top of the fence.

Thus, if you would build a 50-inch fence you would figure as follows:

Depth of post in the ground.....	36 inches
Height of fence.....	50 inches
Height of post above fence....	2 inches
Total.....	88 inches
	or 7 feet, 4 inches

A 7-foot End or Corner Post would be short, so you buy 8-foot End or Corner Posts.

Line Posts should go into the ground not less than 2 feet or 24 inches, and 30 inches would, under some conditions, be better. Hence you would figure for Line Posts as follows:

Depth in the ground.....	24 inches
Height of fence.....	50 inches
Height of post above fence....	2 inches
Total.....	76 inches
	or 6 feet 4 inches.

You would accordingly use a 6½-foot or 78-inch post and set them 26 inches in the ground if this depth seemed sufficient.

The depth to set a Line Post can best be determined by the buyer acquainted with the soil and conditions. In our figures and computations we consider as nearly as possible average conditions. Below we suggest lengths of posts suitable for various heights of fence.

### Line Posts

5	feet for fence not over 36 inches high
6½	feet for fence not over 50 inches high
7	feet for fence not over 56 inches high
7½	feet for fence not over 60 inches high
8	feet for fence not over 66 inches high
9	feet for fence not over 72 inches high
10	feet for fence not over 82 inches high
11	feet for fence not over 88 inches high

### End and Corner Posts

7	feet for fence not over 46 inches high
8	feet for fence not over 58 inches high
9	feet for fence not over 72 inches high
10	feet for fence not over 80 inches high
11	feet for fence not over 88 inches high

In building very heavy high fences it is always advisable to set end and corner posts as securely as possible and the concrete may advantageously extend to a depth of 4 or more feet in the ground.

### Post Tops

FOR use about residence lots, parks, cemeteries, etc. we furnish post tops in the shape of a ball for Line, End and Corner Posts. These tops give the fence a finish and add largely to its beauty. We fasten these tops in the post before shipping, or ship them detached with the posts as desired.

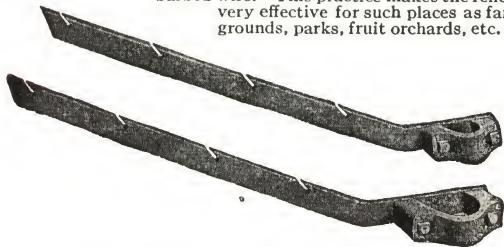
Line Posts cannot be driven with the tops attached because driving would in most cases break the tops. Tops on End and Corner Posts should always be attached at the mill. Tops to Line Posts can be attached after the posts are set by placing them in the post and holding a sledge or some heavy metal tool on one side when the top edge of the post can be turned in over the flange of the casting with a cold chisel or some such tool.

### Hitching Posts

WE illustrate on this page the American Hitching Post. This is made of steel sheet, thoroughly coated with zinc inside and outside. It is furnished with ornamental top and strong hitching ring. Length, 6 feet. Intended to be set in the ground not less than 2 feet. This is a first class hitching post, handsome and not expensive.

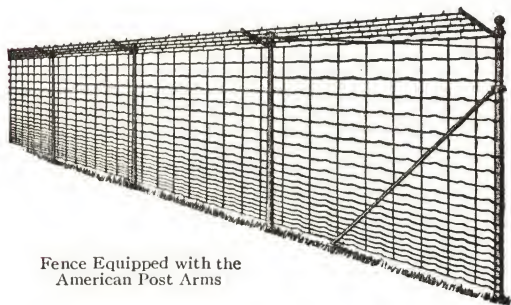
## American Post Arms

THE practice of nailing an arm or extension at a certain angle to the top of the wood fence post has been in vogue for many years. These arms carry say four strands of barbed wire. This practice makes the fence very effective for such places as fair grounds, parks, fruit orchards, etc.



We illustrate above the *American Steel Post Arm* for use on American Steel Fence Posts. These arms are made to carry four lines of barbed wire. No staples are required. The arms are neat, strong and easily attached and will be found very satisfactory where such device is desired.

The arms can be attached to any fence where American Steel Fence Posts are used, either before or after the fencing is stretched. The American Post Arms are shipped detached and are secured to the posts by two bolts, thoroughly coated with zinc.



Fence Equipped with the  
American Post Arms

For parks, orchards, vineyards, fair grounds, private and public grounds and all places where a non-climbable fence is required.

The American Post Arm is the solution of the perfect fence for keeping people and all animals on one side or the other as desired.

## Poultry Yards

IN poultry raising cleanliness is of first importance. Without cleanliness failure is certain. Vermin and disease always accompany or follow filthy conditions. Wood about the poultry yard unless frequently painted absorbs moisture and filth, furnishes breeding places for lice and other insect pests including disease germs of various character.

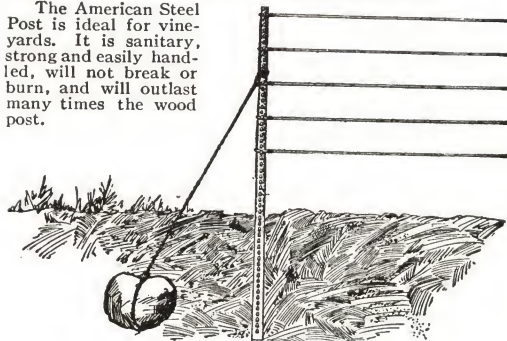
The American Steel Fence Post insures sanitary conditions and the poultry is safe and protected from one of the most common and persistent pest and disease breeders, the old wood post.



## Vineyards

IN grape culture old and rotting wood is liable to breed disease, or at least the wood post furnishes breeding places for the multiplying of germs, insects and growths detrimental to best success. Wood posts or stakes must often be replaced, they break easily and are hard to fasten to.

The American Steel Post is ideal for vineyards. It is sanitary, strong and easily handled, will not break or burn, and will outlast many times the wood post.



## For Use in Vineyards

A No. 13, in some cases a No. 16 line post can be used for ends. Anchor the end line post back to a dead-man as indicated above.

### Supports for Tomato Vines, Beans, Etc.

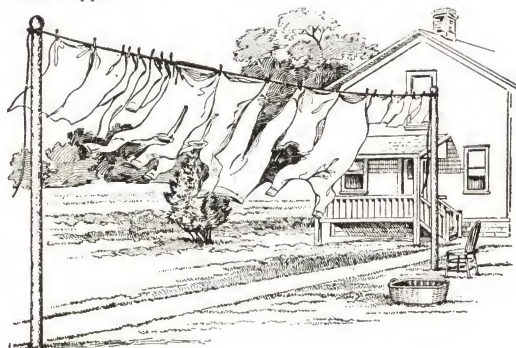


Bean Support

Last year American line posts were thoroughly tested out in use as supports for tomatoes, pole beans and other plants of this character. They proved excellent for the purpose indicated. The American post effects great economy in this connection as the posts can be collected after the crops are gathered and used year after year, thus saving in the long run very much of the expense heretofore encountered by the use of wood stakes.

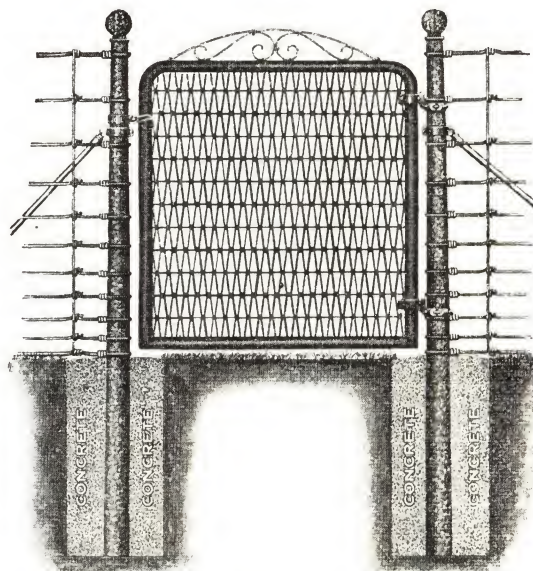


Tomato Support



### The Clothesline Post

9 foot or 10 foot end posts without fixtures and with ball tops are ideal for clothesline supports. They last indefinitely, are neat in appearance, clean and in every way satisfactory. Line posts are used by some for this purpose but of course are not so strong and durable as the heavier end posts.



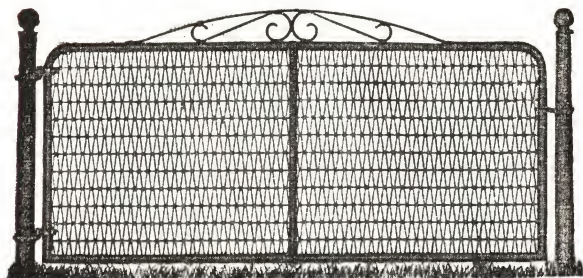
### Gates on American Posts

AMERICAN Walk, Single and Double Drive and the ordinary Yankee Gates are supplied with all necessary fixtures for hanging on American Steel Fence Posts. If gates for Steel Posts are specified all the necessary hinges and latches will be attached to the gate.

These fixtures are not suitable for hanging gates on wood posts so that it is necessary to specify whether gates are wanted for steel or wood posts. The top hinge hook should pass downward through the hinge eye so the gate cannot be lifted off the hinges.

Any gate with the ordinary hinge eye, not less than  $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch diameter will hang on our hinge hooks for steel posts.

We do not list gate posts, because any end or corner post is a gate post if you conclude to hang a gate on it. Just order end and corner posts necessary and hang the gates on any of the ends or corners as desired. Extra gate fittings as per list on page 19.



### Hanging Gates on American Posts

**I**N building a new fence with American Posts, the gates should be fitted to the openings before the concrete is put in. Dig the end holes, put on the hinge and latch collars, set the posts in the holes and hang the gate between them. The posts and gate can easily be held or braced up just as you want them; while in this position put in the concrete; when the concrete is all in see that the gate hangs properly at both ends, moving the posts slightly if necessary. A few hours after the concrete is in, it will harden up sufficiently to hold the posts and no further change in position of posts is possible.

### Cleaning the Farm

**C**LEANING the farm by fire is coming into practice more generally every year; in fact, the use of fire is an absolute necessity to thorough and efficient work.

All waste places where weeds, grass, brush, etc. have been allowed to grow and decay and destroy must be thoroughly cleaned every year in order to destroy insects and the enemies of crops. Few of the insect pests will appear in sufficient numbers to do any damage if their winter quarters are destroyed.

There is a right way and a wrong way to burn the fence line. The right way is to select a day when the wind is blowing at right angles to the fence line. Then set the fire on the side of the fence from which the wind is blowing. The wind will then hold down the heat, and blow the heat, smoke and gases through the fence quickly and no damage will be done. See photograph page 18. It is not advisable to pile brush or rubbish against the fence and then burn it as the wire might be sufficiently annealed thereby to reduce its tensile strength. However any one year's growth of grass or weeds can be burned along the fence line without danger and with great benefit.

### Burning the Fence Line

**F**EW of us perhaps realize how much being able to burn the fence line means in dollars and cents to the farmer.

In cities and towns boards of health are organized and maintained for the purpose of conserving the public health, stamping out and preventing disease and devising ways and means therefor. To discover and clean up the germ-producing, plague-breeding spots constitutes the essential in building sanitary and healthful conditions.

What the filthy pest breeding spots are to the city, the fence line under the old and still existing conditions is to the farm. Practically all the vermin, insect pests, noxious weeds, etc., are bred and fostered by the sheltering fence lines banked with weeds and partially decayed vegetation. It is simply impossible to clean up the farm while the fence lines are growing a crop of weeds every year, distributing their seed in all directions and forming a sure and safe haven and breeding place for all sorts of insect pests.

Burning is perhaps the only way to get rid of the chinch bug, yet if all the fields are burned over and the fence lines are omitted there will be plenty of bugs left to take the next year's crop. The solution is the American Steel Fence Post, which allows burning of the entire fence line at pleasure.



Burning the Fence Line.

The right way—note the wind blowing heat and smoke away from the fence line.

Few seeds will germinate if more than two inches below the surface of the ground. Hence by burning the fence line every year the growth of grass is encouraged, weeds and their seed destroyed, while weed seed a little below the surface of the ground will remain dormant indefinitely.

This condition of cleanliness on the farm has never been possible without great danger of loss from burning the fence posts, but with the American Steel Fence Post it is made practical without any possibility of danger to any part of the fence. This item alone will repay many times the cost of the steel post.

### **The American Steel Post Saves Labor and Time**

**B**Y using the American Steel Post the building of a really good and permanent fence is greatly simplified. The line posts can be driven in any ordinary soil and if the holes must be bored or dug on account of hardpan or rock a much smaller hole is necessary than is required for wood or other material. The end and corner posts require much smaller holes than is necessary for a wood end or corner post, as in using wood the first post and also the second post must be put in very deep and well anchored and braced. The matter of tamping is very much reduced as the concrete should only be tamped sufficient to remove the air bubbles and surplus water.

A wire fence can be stretched on American Posts in less time and better than on wood posts. No staples are necessary as each line post carries its own fastenings and they are easily and quickly adjusted. In starting the fence it is a simple matter to loop the ends of the wire around the end post and fasten with a splicer. In finishing the same operation is gone through and in less time than a fence can be properly fastened on a large wood end post.

## Post Fixtures



No. K 51. Brace Foot



No. K 37  
Upper Brace Connection



No. K 52  
Hitching Post Top



No. K 35. Line Top



No. K 27  
Driving Cap



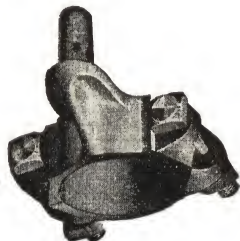
No. K 34. End and Corner Top



No. K 60. Brace Collar



No. K 29  
Lower Gate Hinge Collar



No. K 30  
Upper Gate Hinge Collar

## Post Fixtures



Line Post Anchor



No. K 5650. Pig Ear Latch



Arm for Line Post



Arm for End or Corner Post

## Fixtures for Hanging Yankee Gates on American Steel Posts



No. K 200  
Swivel Collar



No. K 201  
Top Latch Hook



No. K 202  
Hinge Guide

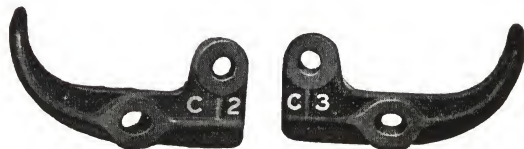


No. K 203  
Bottom Latch Hook

## Parts of American End Tool



No. C1. Lever

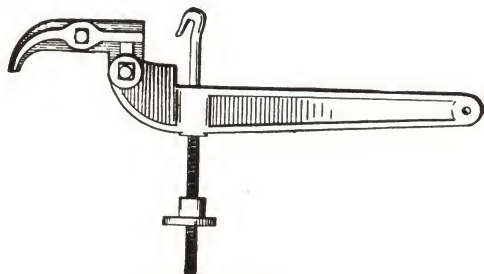


No. C2. Jaw

No. C3. Jaw



Hook



American End Tool

## LIST PRICES

Effective July 21, 1913, Subject to change without notice.

## American Fence Posts

Gage and Design	Length in Feet	Approximate Weight in lbs.	List Prices Per Post
No. 16 Line Post.....	5	5.7	\$0.35
No. 16 Line Post.....	6½	7.	.43
No. 16 Line Post.....	7	7.75	.49
No. 16 Line Post.....	7½	8.5	.52
No. 16 Line Post.....	8	9.	.57
No. 16 Line Post.....	9	10.5	.66
No. 13 Line Post.....	5	8.	.45
No. 13 Line Post.....	6½	10.	.60
No. 13 Line Post.....	7	11.5	.68
No. 13 Line Post.....	7½	12.25	.72
No. 13 Line Post.....	8	13.25	.79
No. 13 Line Post.....	9	15.	.89
No. 13 Line Post.....	10	17.	1.00
No. 13 Line Post.....	11	19.29	1.15
No. 12 End Post.....	7	45.	2.85
No. 12 End Post.....	8	51.	3.16
No. 12 Corner Post.....	7	68.	4.35
No. 12 Corner Post.....	8	78.	4.80
No. 10 End Post.....	7	51.	3.10
No. 10 End Post.....	8	59.	3.50
No. 10 End Post.....	9	67.	3.90
No. 10 End Post.....	10	119.	7.75
No. 10 End Post.....	11	122.	7.90
No. 10 Corner Post.....	7	75.	4.60
No. 10 Corner Post.....	8	86.	4.95
No. 10 Corner Post.....	9	97.	5.70
No. 10 Corner Post.....	10	195.	12.55
No. 10 Corner Post.....	11	197.	12.70
No. 10 Hitching Post.....	6	25.	2.00

Fixtures for Hanging Yankee Gate on  
American Steel Posts

	Lbs.	Ozs.	List Price
No. K200—Swivel Collar.....	2	1	\$0.24
No. K202—Hinge Guide.....	2	8	.28
No. K201—Top Latch Hook.....	2	..	.24
No. K203—Bottom Latch Hook.....	2	2	.26

Above list prices are subject to liberal discounts.

Line posts are shipped in bundles of ten posts each.

End and corner posts are complete, the necessary braces and fixtures being securely wired to each post.

All American Posts are heavily galvanized inside and outside. All tops and other fixtures used in connection with end and corner posts, including the gate hinge and latch collars are also heavily galvanized.

# American Steel and Wire Company

## LIST PRICES

### Fixtures for American Posts

Effective January 17, 1911, Subject to change without notice.

FIXTURES	Approximate Weight		List Prices Per Fixture
	Lbs.	Ozs.	
No. K34—End and Corner Top.....	2	..	\$0.20
No. K35—Line Top.....	1	..	.10
No. K27—Driving Cap.....	1	..	.10
No. K60—Brace Collar.....	2	..	.40
No. K37—Upper Brace Connection.....	..	14	.10
No. K51—Brace Foot.....	2	6	.20
No. K52—Hitching Post Top.....	2	..	.50
No. K29—Lower Gate Hinge Collar.....	1	12	.40
No. K30—Upper Gate Hinge Collar.....	1	11	.40
No. K5656—Pig Ear Latch.....	2	4	.40
6 ft. Brace for 7 ft. End or Corner Posts...	18	..	1.25
7 ft. Brace for 8 ft. End or Corner Posts...	21	..	1.50
8 ft. Brace for 9 ft. End or Corner Posts...	24	..	1.75
Line Post Anchors.....	..	5	.03
American Extension Arm for Line Posts...	3	..	.30
American Extension Arm for End and Corner Posts.....	3	8	.40

### Fixtures for 10 ft. and 11 ft. End and Corner Posts

FIXTURES	Approximate Weight		List Prices Per Fixture
	Lbs.	Ozs.	
No. K40—Upper 2 in. Brace Connection ..	1	12	.20
No. K41—Upper Brace Collar .....	2	5	.50
No. K42—Lower Brace Collar .....	2	8	.50
No. K39—Brace Foot for 2 in. Brace.....	4	..	.30
Upper Brace 9 ft. 6 in. x 2 in.....	34	8	2.50
Lower Brace 7 ft. 9 in. x 2 in.....	28	..	2.25

# American Steel Fence Post

## LIST PRICES

### End, Corner and Hitching Posts without Fixtures

Gage	Length in Feet	Approximate Weight in Lbs.	List Prices Per Post
No. 12.....	7	21.	\$1.48
No. 12.....	8	24.5	1.66
No. 10.....	6	22.5	1.50
No. 10.....	7	27.25	1.75
No. 10.....	8	32.25	2.00
No. 10.....	9	37.25	2.25
No. 10.....	10	43.	2.53
No. 10.....	11	47.5	2.85

### Parts of American End Tool

	Lbs.	Ozs.	List Price
No. C1 .....	3	4	\$0.50
No. C2 .....	1	8	.20
No. C3 .....	1	8	.20
Hook.....	..	9	.24

### Tools

	Lbs.	Ozs.	List Price
American Post Auger.....	8	..	2.00
American End Tool .....	7	4	1.00

American Steel and Wire Company

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ASSOCIATION  
FOR  
PRESERVATION  
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From the collection of:  
Gerron S. Hite

West Texas Collection, Angelo State University, San Angelo, TX

American Steel Fence Post

## T PRICES

r and Hitching Posts  
out Fixtures

	Length in Feet	Approx- imate Weight in Lbs.	List Prices Per Post
.....	7	21.	\$1.48
.....	8	24.5	1.66
.....	6	22.5	1.50
.....	7	27.25	1.75
.....	8	32.25	2.00
.....	9	37.25	2.25
.....	10	43.	2.53
.....	11	47.5	2.85

## American End Tool

	Lbs.	Ozs.	List Price
.....	3	4	\$0.50
.....	1	8	.20
.....	1	8	.20
.....	..	9	.24

## Tools

	Lbs.	Ozs.	List Price
.....	8	..	2.00
.....	7	4	1.00

# AMERICAN STEEL FENCE POST

**Quality**—Made of suitable high-class steel, heavily coated with zinc inside and outside.

**Strength**—Line posts strong enough to hold up any wire fence and furnish all necessary resistance. End and corner posts so strong that they will maintain any wire fence made.

**Adaptability**—Adapted to all conditions and will prove absolutely satisfactory wherever a good wire fence is desired, no matter how heavy the wire or how hard the usage after the fence is erected.

**Service**—The American Steel Fence Post will give much more and much better service than can be expected of wood posts because every American Post is just like every other American Post, and you get the benefit of every post in the fence from year to year, while the wood posts burn, rot and decay from the start.

**Durability**—American Steel Fence Posts have been in service since 1898, in every section of the United States, and the oldest posts are today as good as when set.

Cheaper than Wood and More Durable. Galvanized Inside and Outside.

We have a stock of American Steel Fence Posts and will be glad to show you samples, quote you prices and tell you all about them.

20.00

